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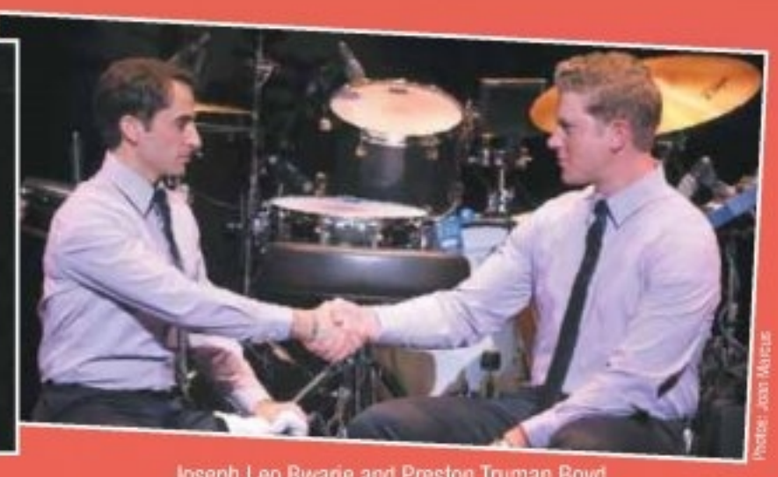
JERSEY BOYS

The story of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons

BEGINS TONIGHT!

Michael Lomenda, Joseph Leo Bwarie, Preston Truman Boyd and John Gardiner

Denise Payne



Joseph Leo Bwarie and Preston Truman Boyd

Photos: Joan Marcus

JERSEY BOYS

The story of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons

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BOOKS {page 14}

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Metro columnist Angelo Cataldi says DeSean's last route should be ...

OUT OF TOWN

- Eagles' most exciting player is 'gutless' and should be a fall guy for horrible season
- His me-first attitude isn't worth big plays or big paycheck {page 24}

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Two Penn grads call for name change

In the wake of the Penn State scandal, two University of Pennsylvania graduates have started an online petition to change the Ivy League school's name.

According to a Daily Pennsylvanian article, Noam Harel and Kenneth Lesch, both of the class of 1992, called Penn's name "boring, confusing and simply misleading" and suggest "Franklin University," which they acknowledge is already taken, or calling the entire school "Wharton."

"The negative publicity surrounding the ongoing scandal at Penn State spilling onto Penn is just the most recent evidence of long-standing confusion surrounding our identity," the website reads. "Would changing Penn's name be disruptive? Would it temporarily confuse applicants, admission committees, and employers? Yes and yes."

RICARD LARMA/METRO

When the Daily Pennsylvanian asked university President Amy Gutmann what she thought about the proposition, she said, "The answer is simple — absolutely not."

ALEXANDRA WIGGLESWORTH

Sunnier outlook for solar owners

City lawmakers to let building permits slide if solar panels included in new construction Bill sponsor says going green offsets revenue loss

Being green is becoming a lot easier in Philadelphia.

In a continuation of the Nutter administration's efforts to encourage energy efficient construction practices, a bill received preliminary City Council approval yesterday that will dramatically reduce building permit costs for projects using solar electric or photovoltaic systems.

"Building permit fees are based on the construction costs of the project, which include materials," said Sarah Sachdev, director of Legislative Affairs for bill sponsor Councilman Jim Kenney. "This exempts arrays and converters from the building permit, reducing the overall cost."

Philadelphia's Energy Director Kristin Sullivan testified that the bill is projected to cut the cost of such projects in half.

Kenney said that the reduced permit will also make it possible for smaller businesses to utilize solar technology. "Cutting the up-front cost in half with these kinds of job makes it a lot more feasible," he said. The legislation is a companion to a bill signed by Mayor Michael Nutter on Nov. 14 giving similar discounts to electrical permit fees.

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

PAIGE OZAROSKI/METRO

▶ Building permits could be overlooked with the inclusion of solar panels.

Going green tops revenue concerns

The loss of revenue to the city, Kenney believes, will not be significant.

"The advantages of doing solar installations in the city, including the environmental impact, moving pressure off the electric grid and making Philadelphia more attractive environmentally, far outweighs the loss of revenue," he said.

"And if the cost of the projects are prohibitive [without the incentive], they wouldn't build here anyway and we'd lose their business completely."

METRO/AW

In the news

3,698

Bears killed by Pennsylvania hunters in 2011, The Associated Press reported, making it the second deadliest on record for the animals — or successful for hunters, depending on how you look at it. The most productive year was 2005, when 4,164 bears were killed.

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Bad pills or bad party?

At least two dozen people were hospitalized, many after ingesting Ecstasy, at a rave at Lehigh University during the weekend.

The party, DayGlow, was founded in 2006 and is well known in the club scene for its techno DJs, circuslike performers and paint blast cannons. It made headlines in mid-September when 15 attendees of a Syracuse DayGlow party were hospitalized for drug or alcohol overdoses.

The Lehigh University DayGlow party was held at the campus's Rauch Field House and hosted about 4,200 people, said spokesman Jordan Reese. "The dance party will not be coming back to Stabler in the spring as a result of what occurred," Reese said. METRO/AW

Bucks woman awarded $13M

BUCKS COUNTY. A former Pennsbury High School student will receive $13 million for a school-bus accident that resulted in the loss of her leg.

Ashley Zauflik, now 22, was 17 years old when the bus struck her and seven other students in 1997.

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By the numbers

The first look at how Pennsylvania casinos did over a 12-month period became available yesterday, with everyone eager to compare how individual gaming halls like SugarHouse Casino did in October and November 2010 compared with those months this year.

$14.7

SugarHouse's gross terminal revenue, in millions, from slot machines in November, up 48.4 percent from the previous year, according to figures released from the state Gaming Control Board.

8

SugarHouse's rank out of the state's 10 casinos in terms of gross terminal revenue. Only Presque Isle and Mount Airy bring in less.

1,602

Total slots at the casino in November. Plans for expansion that would nearly double the size of the gaming floor were approved by City Council last week.

SOLOMON D. LEACH

'RAM Squad' leader Hill killed in Stenton robbery

Rapper, in midst of comeback try, shot Friday, died Sunday Remembered on hip-hop stations yesterday

The man who was shot during an East Mount Airy robbery Friday and died from his injuries early Sunday morning has been identified as North Philly rapper Tommy Hill.

Hill, born John Wilson, partnered with mobster Joey Merlino in 1997 to finance and promote the RAM Squad (an acronym for "Richard Allen Mob"), a local hip-hop collective that eventually signed with Universal Music Group. Despite their connections, RAM Squad never broke into the big time.

ALLHIPHOP.COM

Tommy Hill

Federal agents accused members of being involved in a drug network of the same name, with their lyrics thinly-veiled descriptions of illegal activity.

Wilson, 36, was shot around 1:35 a.m. Friday, when the manager of Rueben's Marc Bar on Stenton Avenue pursued him to a nearby parking lot because he left on a tab.

Just as Wilson was about to hand the manager the money, three masked men attacked them. One pointed a gun at Wilson while the other two pushed him to the ground and went through his pockets.

The bar manager, who backed away during the attack, heard a shot and pulled his gun and, along with a security guard who came outside after hearing the gunshot, returned fire.

The offenders shot back, then split up. Wilson was hit in the chest and lower body. Despite his alleged underworld ties, police say robbery appears to be the motive.

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

Final try

In recent years, Wilson was trying to make a comeback under the name "Tommy Butta" and gained attention for his taunts of fellow Philly rapper Beanie Sigel. He was arrested in February for allegedly beating a woman inside an Atlanta Wal-Mart for her purse. METRO/AW

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Mystery illness at Father Judge

Father Judge High School will remain closed today as city health officials try to determine what caused eye irritation for dozens of people at a cheerleading competition at the school.

The competition took place Sunday night in the school's gymnasium. Not long afterward, people began showing up in area hospitals reporting burning, redness and swelling in their eyes, and officials determined that they had all attended the same event. The exact number of people treated for the ailment was unknown yesterday by city health officials.

While investigators had not determined the source of the problem, they said earlier reports that it was linked to lights was unlikely.

"After investigating, it turned out that it wasn't high-pressure sodium lights at all. ... Turned out it was a regular lightbulb," said Capt. Jeffrey Thompson of the fire department.

SOLOMON D. LEACH

Solving it

The incident is being investigated by the city fire department and health department. Some media reports have said it had to do with lighting.

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

Development. Greenway

▶ A jogger will find more running room after a beautification project adds pedestrian lanes.

Connecting two rivers

A public meeting is today for community input on the new Spring Garden Street Greenway that will create new recreation opportunities for the street and connect the Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers.

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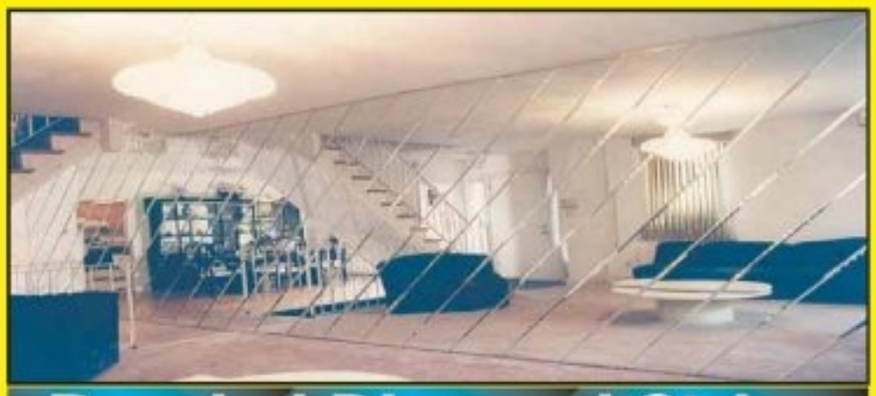

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Gingrich campaign: Cain not endorsing

Politicians deny accuracy of media report Former House Speaker's team says it's just not happening

Former pizza magnate Herman Cain will not endorse former rival Newt Gingrich for the 2012 Republican presidential nomination, contrary to a media report, a spokesman for Gingrich's campaign said.

Cain dropped out of the race on Saturday after accusations of sexual misconduct overwhelmed his bid to become the Republicans' choice to oppose Democratic President Barack Obama's re-election bid.

His departure shaped the Republican race more clearly into a matchup between Gingrich and former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney and spurred speculation as to whom the former Republican front-runner would support.

A perfect match?

Like Cain, Gingrich has faced down allegations of marital infidelity.

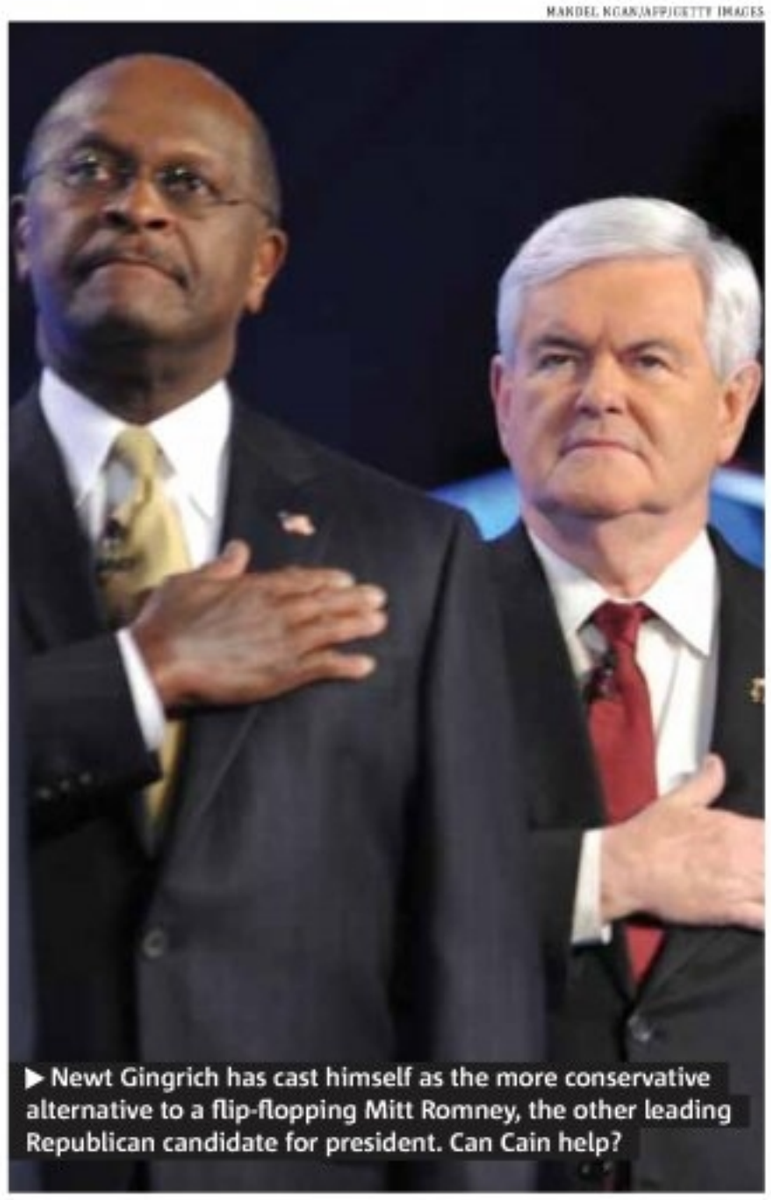
"I can't say I won't endorse, but not in the immediate time frame." CAIN

Cain said on Saturday he would endorse one of the contenders for the nomination. The Fox television station in Atlanta that first reported allegations that Cain had had an extramarital affair said he was preparing to endorse Gingrich on Monday. Cain has denied the affair.

Gingrich seemed the most logical choice for a Cain endorsement because his campaign has appealed to the same conservative wing of the Republican party targeted by Cain, who had positioned himself as an anti-Washington tax reformer.

R.C. Hammond, a spokesman for Gingrich, said there were no plans for Cain to endorse the former Speaker of the House of Representatives yesterday, despite media reports over the weekend. REUTERS

MANDEL NGAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Newt Gingrich has cast himself as the more conservative alternative to a flip-flopping Mitt Romney, the other leading Republican candidate for president. Can Cain help?

metro MAN AND WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2011

Given that he was nominated as Metro's Man of the Year when we first ran this event two years ago, it has been noticeable how few nominations President Barack Obama received this year. A sign of things to come next November, perhaps? Yesterday, Metro readers reacted with a vengeance, nominating him several times.

Documentary maker Michael Moore was nominated by Donia Goss of Arlington, Mass.: "For over 20 years he has been on the front lines protesting the ridiculous inequalities in America."

Nominate your Man or Woman of the Year until 5 p.m. on Friday Dec. 9 by mailing **mwoty@metro.us.**

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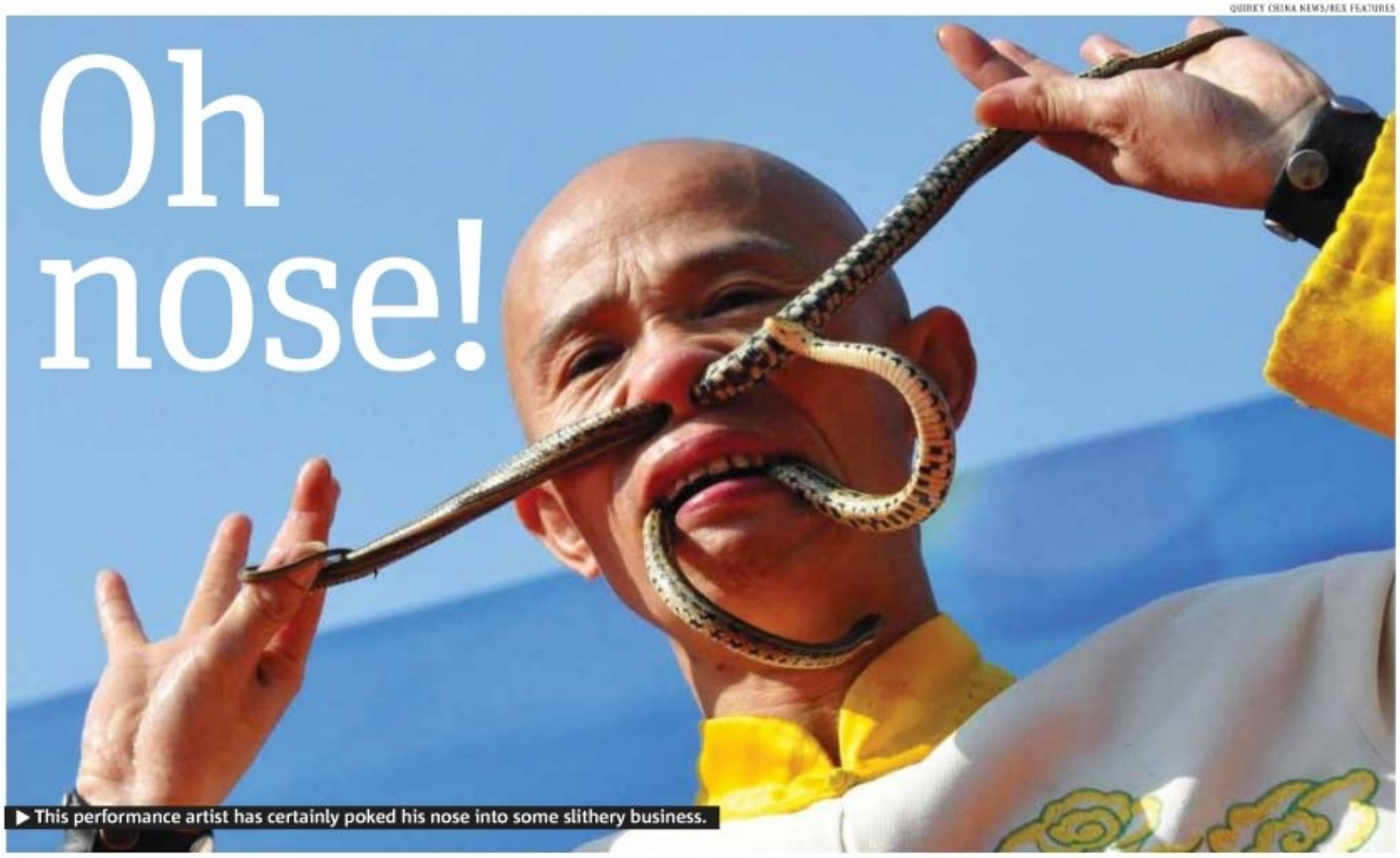
QUIRKY CHINA NEWS/REX FEATURES



▶ This performance artist has certainly poked his nose into some slithery business.

Serpents invade man's orifices

NANNING, CHINA. Li Fei threads two snakes from both nostrils and out his mouth at Nanning Zoo in Guangxi Province, south China. Another "artist," Liu Xin, performed a head-stand on top of a nail. MWN

9

Jackie Biddy set the Guinness World Record for most snakes in mouth at nine, holding them in his mouth for 10 seconds.

Snakeman Liu

- **Adept at handling snakes** Liu Fei, 40, is nicknamed 'Snake King Asia.'
- **Several snakes at once** He can handle up to three 3-foot cauliflower snakes
- **During a TV show ...** Liu managed to let a nearly foot-long snake crawl through his nose and mouth

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myentertainment

2

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

'Housewife' Kim Richards enters rehab

I always thought the "point" of the "Real Housewives" franchise was to show us, the common people, how glamorous and lovely it is being stinking rich. But "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills" just makes me grateful for my overdrawn MasterCard.

As you may remember, four months ago, cast member **Taylor Armstrong**'s husband killed himself, reportedly because of financial problems. Now, "Entertainment Tonight" is reporting that cast member **Kim Richards** is in rehab. In previous episodes of the show, Richards admitted to taking anti-anxiety and antidepressant medications, as well as an anti-seizure medication that can be used to treat alcoholism (meaning: Richards isn't a person who just has one too many glasses of wine at dinner; she's probably hiding hooch around the house).

It's sad. Everything about this show is sad. And maybe everyone on this show would be happier if they stopped trying to impress the Joneses and downgraded their materialistic lives into something a little more manageable and normal. Sometimes you just have to blow dry your own hair and vacuum your own floors, you know?

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DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Richards posed at the Critics' Choice Television Awards Luncheon in June.

Rancic to get double mastectomy

Giuliana Rancic, 36, once the poster child for infertility, is now, sadly, the spokeswoman for another terrible affliction: She announced yesterday on "Today" that she will have a double mastectomy after lumpectomies failed to completely eradicate her breast cancer.

She says the reason for the dramatic procedure is twofold. "For me, it was important to get the cancer out," she says. "That's what I wanted to do, just get it out." She also didn't want to delay trying for a baby with husband **Bill Rancic**, 40, as having another lumpectomy-radiation option would have meant delaying pregnancy. "I couldn't be more at peace with the decision. But it's hard, and I still break down some nights. ... But I'm OK."

Best of luck with your recovery, Giuliana.

The feed ...

▶ **Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.**

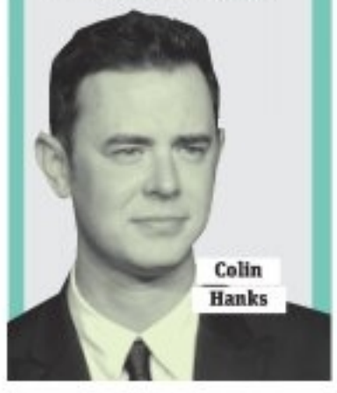
Patrick Schwarzenegger is feeling overworked, Colin Hanks is conducting a survey, Kelly Osbourne is having trouble with housework and Carrie Fisher is getting frisky.

▶ **@PSchwarzenegger:** Meeting after meeting after meeting today. In desperate need of jacuzzi

▶ **@Colin_Hanks:** The city of Hollywood has the sleaziest collection of car washes. Not all of the greater LA area mind you. Just the city itself.

▶ **@MissKellyO:** ahhhh i hate some of the people in my building some a--hole just put my clothes in the dryer and ruined all my new clothes! i want to cry!

▶ **@CarrieFFisher:** Tom Brokaw and I trying to reminisce about a sexual encounter we'd both forgotten.



Colin Hanks

Talking points

Sheen to the rescue?

When **Brooke Mueller** was arrested in Colorado during the weekend on assault and drug charges, it was ex-husband **Charlie Sheen** to the rescue, according to Radar Online. Sources say Mueller first contacted her parents for help with her $11,000 bail, but they refused. "They actually wanted to leave her in jail," a source says. "Brooke's family is done with her — she has to get straight or she is going to die." Luckily, Sheen was more than happy to post bail on her behalf.

Beyonce

Beyonce isn't 'bothered' by rumors

Beyonce isn't bothered by rumors that have circulated since she announced her pregnancy — including talk that she's been wearing a fake pregnancy stomach while a surrogate secretly carries her child. "You know, there are certain things that are so far, it doesn't even affect me," she tells **Katie Couric** in an interview. However, the same can't be said for her family. "My mom is like, 'Nobody's talking about my grandbaby! My grandbaby's not even here yet!'" Beyonce says. "I was like 'Calm down, mom! It's OK!'"

Biel dug the belly

For **Jessica Biel**, pregnancy would be a blast — if her role in "New Year's Eve" is any indication. In the romantic comedy, Biel plays an expectant mother, and playing with extra padding took a lot of pressure off for the actress. "It was so good! I had a [pregnant belly] suit on ... and I had the biggest boobs," the actress tells British talk show host **Graham Norton**. "I ate whatever I wanted — it was great!"

We're out with the girls today

1. Lady Gaga was ready for the holidays at KIIS-FM's Jingle Ball at L.A. Live's Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles on Saturday.

2. Britney Spears held a free concert at Monumento a la Revolución in Mexico City on Sunday.

3. Demi Lovato performed at the Rosemont Theatre in Chicago on Saturday.

4. Jane Lynch attended a signing for her new book, "Happy Accidents," at Barnes & Noble bookstore at The Grove in Los Angeles on Sunday.

5. Meryl Streep received the prestigious Kennedy Center Honors from President Obama during a reception in the East Room of the White House in Washington on Sunday.

6. Madonna attended the Cinema Society & Piaget screening of "W.E." at The Museum of Modern Art in New York City on Sunday.

7. Revlon's newest global brand ambassador, Olivia Wilde, launched four new Revlon eye products at The Lambs Club in New York City yesterday.

8. LeAnn Rimes arrived at the Trevor Project's 2011 Trevor Live! at The Hollywood Palladium in Los Angeles on Sunday.

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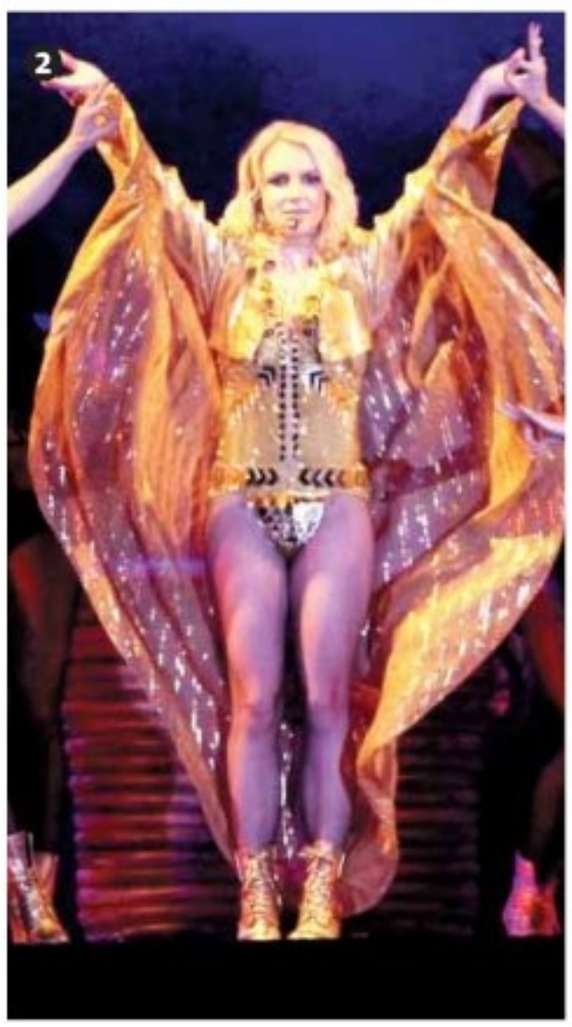

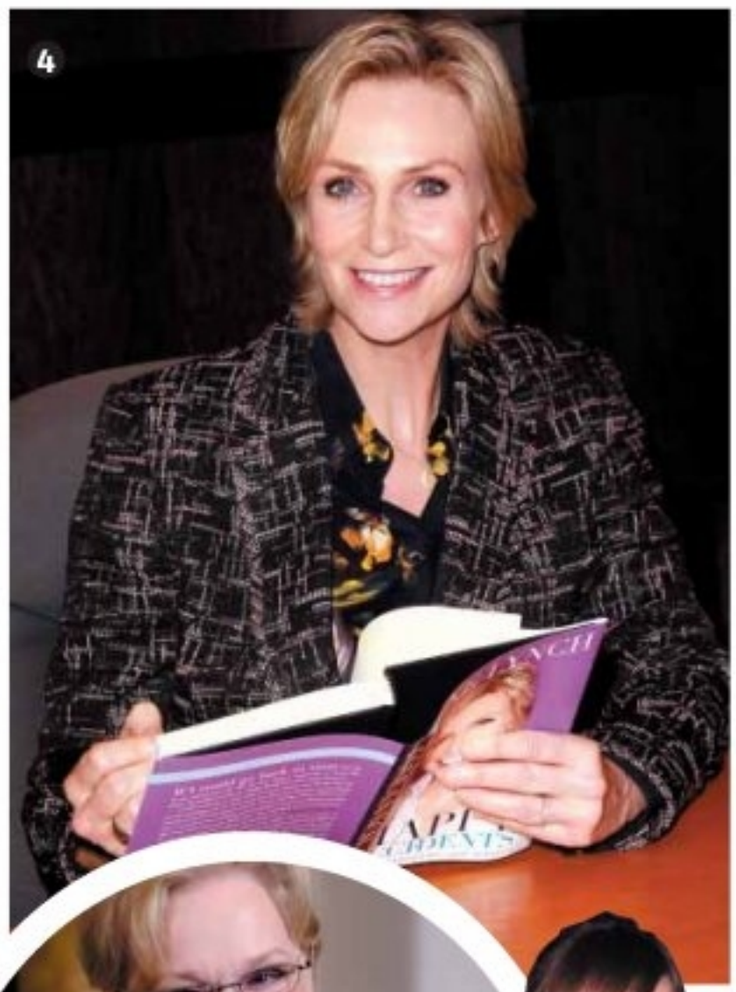

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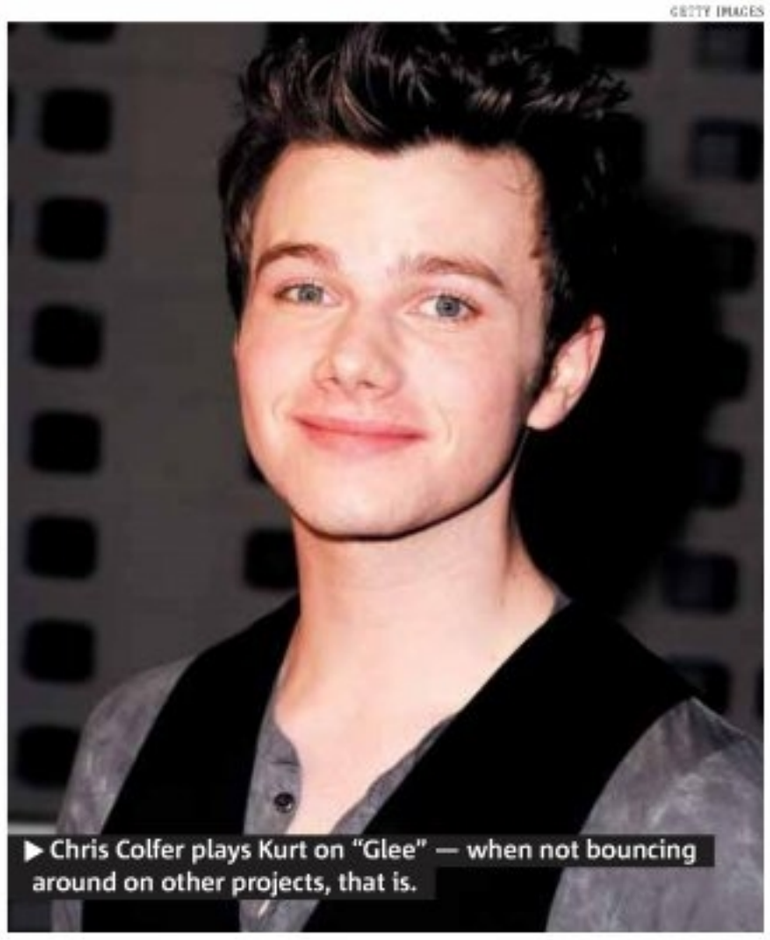
The 'star with a breakout'

After having a huge year, 'Glee' star Chris Colfer is trying to capitalize on the success while playing it cool Why he's saving his hate mail

GETTY IMAGES



Chris Colfer plays Kurt on "Glee" — when not bouncing around on other projects, that is.

Chris Colfer certainly can't be accused of resting on his "Glee" success. "I saw the final cut of the movie that I filmed this summer, called 'Struck by Lighting,' and I think it's good," he says. "The fact that I can stand it, I think, is a good sign. And I have my first book coming out next summer. I'm really excited about that — we're finalizing the cover art right now."

Of course, all that is on top of his regular gig on a hit network TV show. Colfer, who has a Golden Globe and two Emmy nominations for "Glee," could easily be called the show's breakout star, but that's a title he isn't totally comfortable with. "Just that title is overwhelming. More like the star with a breakout," he says with a laugh. "But no, I think I would be stupid if I didn't try to jump on that success as much as I have."

His "Glee" character, Kurt Hummel, is almost as busy as Colfer, too, between running for class president, planning for life after graduation and dealing with all sorts of new issues in his relationship with boyfriend Blaine Anderson (Darren Criss). "They're still together, but there's some big things coming up," Colfer teases. "A character named Sebastian [Grant Gustin] comes in and tries to steal Blaine away from Kurt, and Kurt was absolutely horrified. I loved it because it was finally something different with those characters. It was so much fun to do a scene with Darren where we're yelling at each other."

Overworked as he may be, Colfer's hectic schedule does at least keep him too busy to worry about his critics, though he is tempted to take them on, he admits. "Oh sometimes, let me tell you," he says. "I have a stack of hate mail that I just want to respond to. Maybe one day when I'm tired or tipsy or something, I'm going to respond to them and tell them what I think."

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Fightin' words

As groundbreaking as Colfer's portrayal of openly gay Kurt has been, he's thrilled that Kurt and Blaine are now being treated like any other couple. "There was a point when you could say they're in a relationship or together, but don't show it! We just know they're in the corner doing God knows what," he says. "But they should be treated like any other couple, so they should have fights."

TV watch list

'Sons of Anarchy'

DRAMA. Is this the end for Clay? For Jax? For SAMCRO? Jax's conflict since Season 1 — trying to reconcile his dead father's vision for the club with what stepdad Clay has led it to become — comes to a head in tonight's finale. **Season finale, 10 p.m., FX**

PRASHANT GUPTA / FX

"Sons of Anarchy"

'Glee'

COMEDY. Here's a holiday present for all you Gleeks: The return of Chord Overstreet as Finn attempts to recruit new members before sectionals. **8 p.m., Fox**

'A Michael Buble Christmas'

SPECIAL. The Canadian crooner does a breezy pop Christmas special right, inviting Justin Bieber, Tracy Morgan, Oscar the Grouch and others over for some comedy sketches and carols. **8 p.m., NBC**

'Teen Mom 2'

REALITY. If this docudrama isn't enough to promote birth control, at least it makes a strong case for abstinence from allowing reality TV cameras to follow your life. (Seriously, Kailyn — hiding your boyfriend from your baby-daddy doesn't work on national television.) **Season premiere, 10 p.m., MTV**

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This little zombie wants brains

‘Hey Little Zombie!’ stars a picky eater with one thing on his mind ◗ James Olstein on his new book

Zombies have come a long way over the past couple of years, especially for zombies. But not once during their clumsy ascent of the pop culture monster throne did they ever betray even a flicker of cuteness — until now.

The just-grotesque-enough brainchild of James Olstein, “Hey Little Zombie!” marks the undead darling’s debut in the world of children’s books. We hit up the Philly-based designer because, come on, who puts zombies in bedtime stories?

There are a lot of cool monsters out there. Why a zombie for your first book?

I was always super into monster stories growing up. One year on Thanksgiving, I remember some older cousins watching “Day of the Dead.” And I wasn’t allowed to watch it, but I did catch on that if you got bitten, you became a zombie. I thought, “Wow, what an easy way to be a monster.” Anyone can be a zombie.

Your hungry little zombie has a strong personality. Where did he come from?

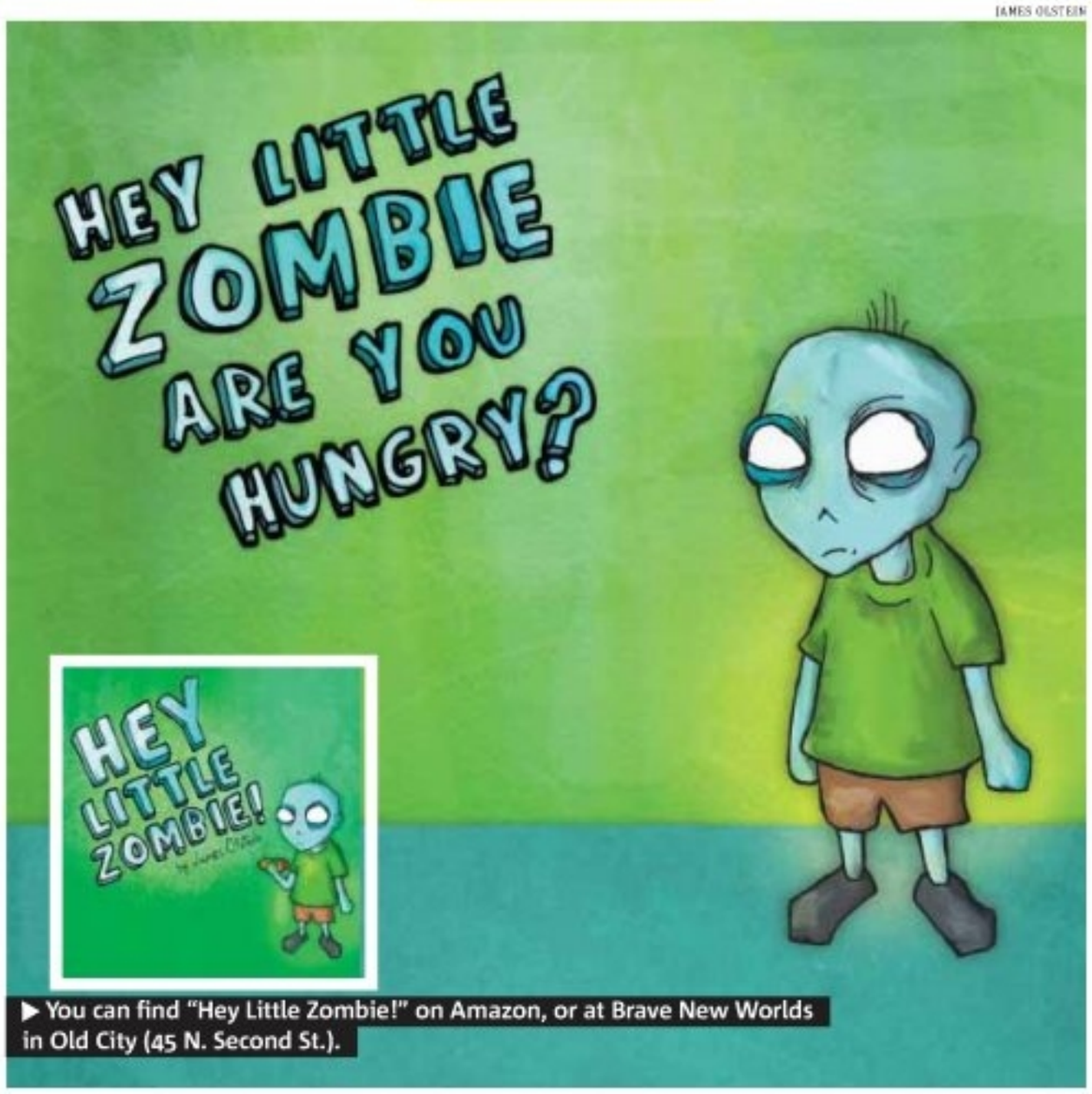
It really just started as a thing to see if I could do it. But as I started drawing this character, he kind of ended up having this persistent, grumpy personality. And so it’s not so much a children’s book about eating brains — it’s a children’s book about being grumpy.

Did you hold back anything for the kids?

I just wrote it for someone in their 20s or 30s. Kids, I don’t know how else to say this, but they’re great bulls— detectors if you try to talk down to them.

MONICA WEYMOUTH
monica.weymouth@metro.us

JAMES OLSTEIN



▶ You can find “Hey Little Zombie!” on Amazon, or at Brave New Worlds in Old City (45 N. Second St.).

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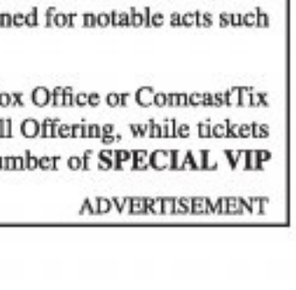
Music, Ministry Take Center Stage for Three Nights at Liacouras Center

Nationally Renowned Author, Speaker Pastor Paula White, Grammy stars, featured

By Aaron Hyndman



Pastor Paula White

Pastor Paula White will be the Keynote Speaker for the Transformation Ministries “A New Way to Celebrate” presentation and will speak on December 15 and 16 as part of a 3-night event, Dec. 15-17.

Pastor Paula White is an author, speaker and the co-founder and Senior Pastor of Without Walls International Church, a large non-denominational Ministry. **Pastor White** is frequently seen on a number of television networks and has ministered at numerous locations, both in the United States and abroad, reaching over 150 nations to give hope, healing and empowerment.

The event, which runs from Thursday, December 15 through Saturday, December 17, will take place at Philadelphia’s 10,200-seat Liacouras Center starting at 7 p.m. each evening. Thursday and Friday nights are a free will offering.

Headlining Saturday’s concert is award-winning singer **Fred Hammond**. His recent album, Free to Worship, won a Grammy Award for Best Contemporary R&B Gospel Album in 2008. Having gained early recognition playing bass for gospel legends The Winans, **Hammond** has spent over 25 years in the industry as both a solo act, and as a member of the group Commissioned.

Saturday will also feature singer and pianist **Smokie Norful**, a Grammy Award-winner for his 2004 album, I Need You Now. Known for his unique fusion of gospel, 70s soul, and contemporary R&B, **Norful’s** music has garnered critical acclaim. His 2009 live album was a New York Times Critic’s Choice.

A performance from singer **Dorinda Clark-Cole** opens the three-day festival. Best known as a member of chart-topping and influential group, The Clark Sisters, **Clark-Cole** is a three-time Grammy Award winner. She also hosts her own show on the TCT television network and is active in a wide range of pursuits, from ministry and evangelism to fashion. **Clark-Cole** takes the stage Thursday, December 15 at 7 p.m.

James Fortune and **Wess Morgan** round out the lineup of performers. Fortune’s debut album, You Survived, gained massive radio airplay in 2005. In addition, Fortune has opened for notable acts such as **John P. Kee**, **Kim Burrell**, **Stevie Wonder**, and **Mary Mary**.

To get tickets for “A New Way to Celebrate,” contact the Liacouras Center Box Office or ComcastTix at 1-800-298-4200. Admission to Thursday and Friday’s events is a Free Will Offering, while tickets for Saturday are priced at $40, $50 and $60 each. There is also a limited number of **SPECIAL VIP TICKETS** available for $200 a piece for all three evenings.

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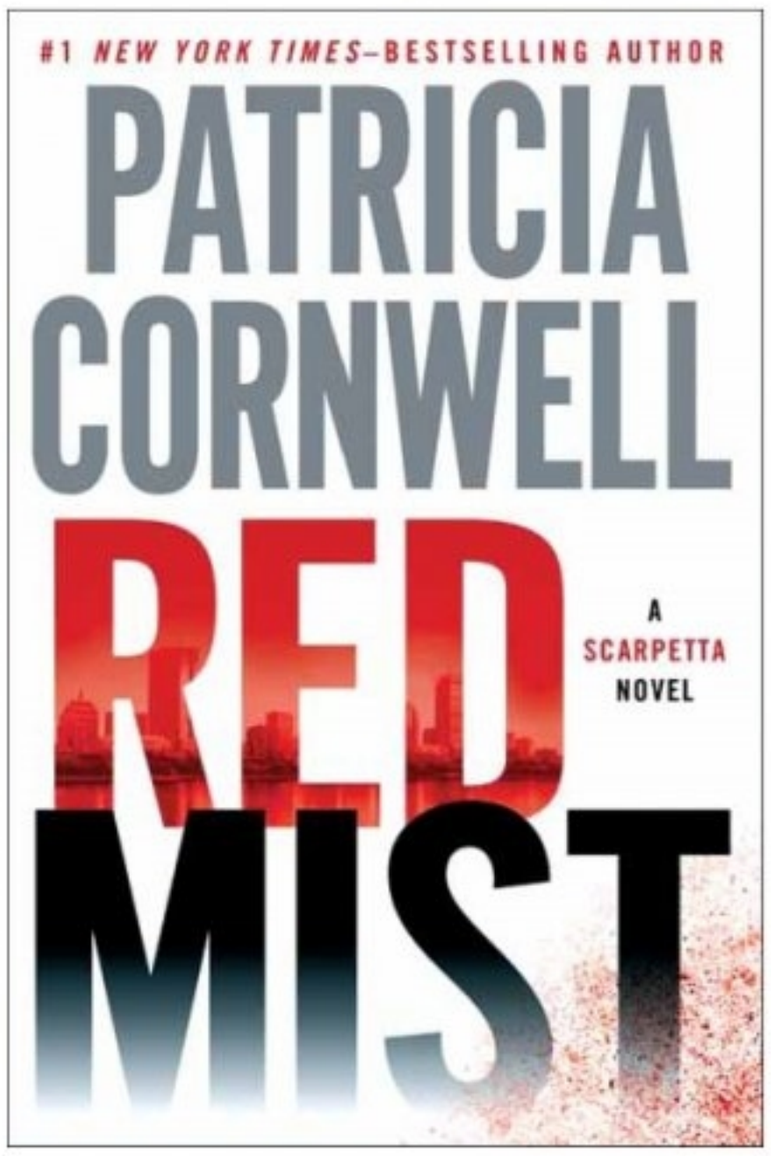

Patricia Cornwell is just getting started

The author's beloved character, the fearless forensic examiner Kay Scarpetta, returns in 'Red Mist' Cornwell on creating the series and her intimate, complicated relationship with her heroine of the last 20 years

"Red Mist" might be the 19th novel in the best-selling Kay Scarpetta series, but author Patricia Cornwell isn't tired of her forensic examiner heroine. In fact, 20 years since Scarpetta made her debut in 1990s "Postmortem" and the series went on to become an international sensation, Cornwell says she's just getting started.

"I am still quite passionate about her," Cornwell says with a twang, revealing her Southern roots.

▶ Patricia Cornwell

GINA CRICOSH © 2011 BY CORNWELL ENTERTAINMENT, INC.

"I'm having more fun with her now than ever, and I hope [my fans] don't get bored with them because I'm not bored with them."

Cornwell speaks about her characters almost as though they are real people, a charming tendency that occurred throughout our interview. And it's understandable — you'd be hard-pressed to find an author who is closer to her main character than Cornwell is to Scarpetta. "I look at the world through her and, when I write, I filter my personality through her," says Cornwell.

When asked what percentage of herself manifests in Scarpetta, she wouldn't name a figure, just saying: "I created this character and if she had a disposition that I found objectionable, I would not want to spend decades of my life with that person."

Another way Cornwell and Scarpetta are intertwined? The 55-year-old author is especially known for trying out activities that Scarpetta undertakes in her books — from scuba diving to flying helicopters to riding motorcycles.

"I do things enough so I can make you believe it enough when I'm recreating them for you. I want you to feel like you are in Savannah, Ga.," says Cornwell about the setting for "Red Mist." "And, actually, when a scene is going really well for me, I always have a flicker of a start when I leave my Boston office and there isn't moss outside on the trees."

DOROTHY ROBINSON
dorothy.robinson@metro.us

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Tom Hil
CGA STAFF WRITER

Every three minutes another person falls behind on credit card debt. It's no wonder, since every major credit card company has nearly doubled the minimum monthly payment on consumers' bills. Federal Regulators forced the change because of their concern about the growing mountain of consumer debt, which stands at $2.17 trillion. Many consumers can only pay the minimum payment, which can take up to 30 years to pay off. Now, relief is in sight for millions of Americans.

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mystyle

3 Must-have bras

- Bra expert Susan Nethero tells us the styles you need to strap on before hitting the holiday party in your sleek backless, scoop-neck or one-shoulder numbers
- Don't be the girl constantly adjusting

Get low

"The Low Down is an accessory that every woman should have," says Nethero. "It's really inexpensive and makes any bra into a backless bra."

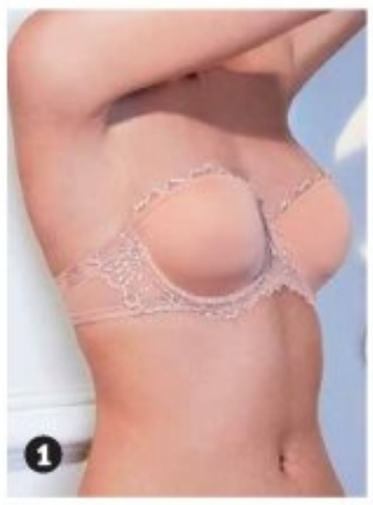
Braza "Low Down," $8

Just because you found the perfect slinky, sequined dress for this year's endless holiday parties doesn't mean your work is done — you still need the right support. We checked in with Susan Nethero, the founder of Intimacy — a lingerie chain that prides itself on fitting women for the perfect-size bra — to find out the must-haves to complete your party wardrobe.

The bras

1. **A great strapless:** Marie Jo "Jane," $131
2. **A convertible:** "The straps adjusts to a halter, racerback or low-back." Marie Jo "Avero," $111
3. **A plunge:** Cleo "Jude," $49. All styles available at www.myintimacy.com

TINA CHADHA
tina.chadha@metro.us



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▶ 'Tis the season for traditions.

How to give the holidays meaning

Oliver James, author of "Affluenza," a book about how our competitive, consumerist culture makes us anxious, suggests ways to give the holidays noncommercial importance:

Create traditions
Find a film, for example, that the family can watch together, like "The Sound of Music" or "Casablanca," and watch it every year — creating a ritual away from the consumption of gifts.

Reinforce anti-materialism
Remind your kids throughout the year that money and possessions aren't going to make them happy and that richer people aren't necessarily happier. They'll have a better perspective at Christmas.

Make them ad-savvy
Kids love impressing you with their cleverness. Teach them how to decrypt the ads that try to sell them products they don't need throughout the year — they'll be wary come December.

EMMA E. FORREST

Updated baby advice

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BRAND X PICTURES

▶ Babies should always sleep on their backs.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recently revised two policy statements, and their recommendations relate directly to how you're raising your child.

Watching TV

Back in 1999, when the AAP declared that children under 2 shouldn't be exposed to television and videos, there wasn't a whole lot of science to back up that recommendation. But after examining more than 50 studies that look at the effects of media on that age group, the AAP is standing its ground. Research shows that watching TV can cause irregular sleep habits and schedules, and can be linked to late talking. Instead of putting your child in front of the screen, give him something safe to play with — he'll figure out how to entertain himself.

Preventing SIDS

In addition to the usual rules for babies up to 1 year — starting with always putting your baby to sleep on his back — there are some big changes: The AAP now recommends no bed-sharing, no bumpers and no co-sleepers (which attach to the side of your bed). You should breastfeed if possible and fully immunize your baby; both have been associated with a decreased SIDS risk. Offer a pacifier too: Sucking on one may reduce the odds, perhaps because it positions the tongue in a way that helps keep the airways open.

KARA CORRIDAN FOR
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Contests

▶ Your teen could be the next Milk Mustache star.

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Today in medicine

Opposites attract autism disorders

Study subjects: Mice
Location of study: U.S.
Results: A new MIT study published in Nature magazine identified both overproduction and underproduction of synaptic proteins (which make communication between neurons possible) in the brain as possible causes of autism.
Significance: Though it might sound conflicting, the results align with the claim that there is no one specific cause for autism.

LINDA CLARKE

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myeducation guide

New frontier: Digital detectives wanted

Computer forensics are in demand more than ever with data extraction becoming big industry these days CCP offers computer forensics program

With more and more kinds of electronic gadgets for storing and manipulating data, experts in computer forensics need to deal with a lot more than just computers.

"Smartphones, iPads, tablets, GPS systems, game consoles, still and video cameras, the computers on cars — computer forensics techs are experts at extracting digital data so it can be used in court," explains Pamela King, director of the computer forensics program at Community College of Philadelphia.

The program, available at both the Center City and Northwest campuses, incorporates hands-on training. King says: "Students take classes in computer science and in criminal justice — and then specific computer forensics courses that bring these two fields together."

Students include people working in IT and paralegals who want to specialize in a growing field. There are also a fair number of career-changers, including people leaving the military. "The combination of technology and law enforcement makes the field a good fit for them," King says.

Some graduates begin working as soon as they get their associate's degree. Others go on to complete bachelor's degrees, though there are only a few four-year programs in the area — including Drexel, Chestnut Hill College and Holy Family. "It's exciting that [CCP] is one of so few schools offering this training," King says.

JUDY WEIGHTMAN
letters@metro.us

Where jobs are

Graduates may seek employment with:

- Local law enforcement agencies
- Federal agencies ranging from the CIA to the IRS
- Private security firms
- Law firms and banks
- Corporations

20%

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the number of jobs in computer forensics will increase more than 20 percent over the decade between 2008 and 2018.

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myeducation guide

All points bulletin for adult learners

Criminal justice program for those already working or interested in the field is available at Peirce College

Philadelphia's Peirce College is expanding its legal studies offerings: The first students in a new program leading to an associate's degree in criminal justice will be starting in January.

"The program is geared toward adult learners," says Brandi Brice, an assistant professor in the program. Its classes are mostly available in the evening to accommodate working adults. Online and day classes will be added later.

Enrollees include both people already working in the criminal justice field who want to advance in their careers, as well as those who want to get started in law enforcement. "Having a degree can really be a leg up in today's economy," Brice points out.

Unlike similar programs elsewhere, students can choose a specialty, including law enforcement/police and criminal investigation.

"The program is going to emphasize experiential learning," Brice says. "Students will be doing co-ops and internships in a wide variety of settings." Those include the district attorney's office, public defenders' offices, courts, the medical examiner's office and the probation department.

"This will allow students to get their feet wet in different placements and help them identify a career path," says Brice. "Our city is vibrant with criminal justice activity, and there are a lot of options for bright new minds."

JUDY WEIGHTMAN
letters@metro.us

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Prospective officers will need 60 college credits.

Tougher to apply to PPD

Starting in 2012, candidates for the Philadelphia Police Academy need to have at least 60 college credits to enroll. Students who graduate from Peirce with a specialization in law enforcement will be well prepared for the academy.

Other opportunities in the public sector can be found in corrections, probation and parole services. Graduates can find jobs with private security firms and in corporate security.

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myeducation guide

What it takes to care for children

Buck County Community College has training to show you how ◐ Two-year program develops skills for child-care providers ◐ New state system rates providers

Any parent will tell you that a day-care center with a trained staff can make a huge difference in a child's development. Bucks County Community College is helping by providing that training in a two-year program for child-care providers.

"All our courses have a fieldwork component — from five to 15 to 25 hours — so they're hands-on," says Barbara Boyle, a faculty member in the Early Childhood Education program. For instance, students taking Language and Literacy might go into the classroom to read to students.

In addition to fieldwork for specific courses, during their last semester, students enroll in a practicum that involves 15 hours a week in local schools and learning centers. "The student starts by working directly under the lead teacher," Boyle explains. "They then gradually take on more and more responsibilities over the course of the semester, working cooperatively to lead classroom activities, develop and implement lesson plans and so forth."

STOCKBYTE

Those who graduate from the program with an associate's degree are eligible to work in school and day-care settings geared to children from birth to age 8. Should the graduate decide later to continue on to pursue a bachelor's degree, the credits will apply toward that degree.

JUDY WEIGHTMAN
letters@metro.us

STARS system for day care

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania instituted a STARS (Standards, Training/Professional Development, Assistance, Resources and Support) system, which rates day-care providers on a one- to four-star scale. One way a provider can get a higher rating is by hiring graduates of programs like the one at Bucks. To find a STARS-certified center near you, go to www.pakeys.org/pages/stars_centers.aspx.

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myeducation guide

Online education is 'scaling quickly'

Trend growing as 6.1 million students went online in 2010 Top tech company gives some perspective

Long-distance study is rising in popularity and cracking open a market for online educators whose infrastructure brings the portable classroom to life.

In 2010, more than 6.1 million students signed up for at least one online course, about 10 percent more than 5.5 million the previous year, reports the Sloan Consortium Survey of Online Learning.

"It's scaling quickly," said John Katzman, founder of 2tor Inc., a New York-based tech company that has partnered with universities including Georgetown, UNC and USC to build, administer and market online postgraduate degree programs that he says seriously compete with traditional on-campus study.

Online study is booming.

"By every metric — the quality of the students coming in, the quality of the work they are doing (according to the faculty) and the satisfaction of the students — I think we've made our case this is as good or better than the classroom program," he said, adding that 3,000 students aged 21 to 81 are currently enrolled in 2tor programs.

The tech darling is the highest-funded startup in online education, with a total of $65 million raised since its seed funding round in March 2009. Its VCs including Novak Biddle, Highland Capital Partners and Bessemer Venture Partners. It currently ranks in the top 10 highest-funded tech startups in New York, the New York Post reported last July. REUTERS

Not his first go-round

Katzman was no stranger to the business of education when 2tor was first conceived.

Founder and CEO of the test prep and admissions company the Princeton Review, Katzman spent 25 years watching the strength of his brand grow while the Internet transformed a wide range of industries. REUTERS

"What would online education look like if it were fantastic? And how could one make it as good, or better, than an on-campus program?"
KATZMAN

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myeducation guide

Cultivating city's 'Next Big Thing'

Social media workshops

In addition to degree and certificate programs, the Baiada Center offers skills workshops and other training programs for students at other universities and for members of the business community. Presented in one to five half-day sessions, workshops tackle topics like using social media, improving your website and understanding legal issues.

Companies can also benefit from Baiada's expertise. The Growth Acceleration Program is a five-month program that focuses on strategic management, cash management, marketing, sales training and leadership and team building.

Drexel's Baiada Center for Entrepreneurship serves as idea incubator for region Mixes fieldwork with classroom brainstorming Applying what you learn

The Baiada Center for Entrepreneurship at Drexel's LeBow College of Business serves both Drexel students and Philadelphia's business community. "Our mission is to incubate ideas, entrepreneurs and companies," says Mark Loschiavo, executive director.

There are two elements to that mission. "There's the academic side: the curriculum that students take for degree credit. There's also the clinical side, which involves training, mentoring and active counseling," Loschiavo explains. "We help germinate and cultivate ideas for people and their companies."

The academic program attracts LeBow students at both the undergraduate and MBA level. Students from other Drexel schools can also pick up a minor — or, in requirement-heavy majors, a certificate — in entrepreneurship. "We get students with majors ranging from media arts to information science to bioengineering," Loschiavo says.

GET MORE ONLINE: WWW.METRO.US/EDUCATION

Even the academic side is very hands on. Loschiavo is enthusiastic about a new class nicknamed "Launch It." In the course of 10 weeks, teams of students augment classroom learning by doing the intensive fieldwork and research necessary for the successful launch of a new product or service. "At other schools, you attend class and learn the concepts, and then are left to your own devices," Loschiavo says, "but we actually work with students to apply what they're learning as they learn it."

JUDY WEIGHTMAN
judy.weightman@metro.us

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Letters

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Minimum wage not our enemy

RE: "MINIMUM WAGE STIFLES JOBS": I had to shake the cobwebs off after reading St. Edwards trot out the old "minimum wage creates unemployment" line. The rhetoric is that if the minimum wage — a wage well below the poverty level — is raised, employers will lay off or not hire workers. This has historically been proven incorrect. It is interesting that minimum wage workers are attacked as the cause of unemployment and not the astronomical high wages of CEOs and corporate executives. Doesn't their skyrocketing pay cause unemployment?
DAVID DIBELLO, VIA E-MAIL

It always astounds me how poor people will defend the rich. Yesterday you had one guy saying Wall Street did nothing wrong; another saying the rich give to charity so we should all bow to kiss their feet; and another denouncing the minimum wage because it kills jobs. How ignorant do you have to be to work against your own best interests? The only people who should be defending the banks and the wealthy are defense lawyers in court!
I'm sorry, but the rest of you are just plain stupid for defending those who would make serfs of us all. **JD DUCAS, VIA E-MAIL**

I suggest you read Steinbeck's "The Grapes of Wrath" to understand what kind of a world you advocate by abolishing the minimum wage.
JOSEPH CONNELL, VIA E-MAIL

You are naive and don't know your history if you think that companies will pay their employees fairly without governmental interference. Why don't you go to a country that pays slave wages while the workers toil 12 hour days — that income isn't regulated by their government. This is why jobs have gone oversees. These greedy companies get to pay workers little to no money and make a huge profit.
CYNTHIA KING, VIA E-MAIL

Do your jobs, or lose them

Regarding yesterday's ranking of Republican candidates:As far as I'm concerned they all rank zero. They have all — except Huntsman — signed the traitor Grover Norquist's pledge to starve agencies they don't like by refusing to do the part of their job that involves making sure the government has enough money. They are all total hypocrites.
PAUL SIMONS, LEVITTOWN

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Horoscope

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Today's good aspects could offer you more ways than usual to further your ambitious interests. Although the breaks may be plentiful, they'll be fleeting as well, so act immediately.
♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** A positive attitude regarding your involvements with others will work wonders for you. With the right mind-set, you'll be a bit bolder and will reach higher than usual.
♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** By consistently envisioning positive results for all your undertakings, there's a very good chance your hopes and expectations will be fulfilled as well. Try it and see for yourself.
♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Some important news might be coming your way. After studying it closely, you're likely to discover that it's much bigger than you ever anticipated.
♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Something good could happen to you that would immediately ease a financial burden. A friend is likely to be the one who brings this about.
♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Even if things have been a bit unimpressive for you lately, matters could suddenly, totally change. Whatever it is that occurs should please you immensely.
♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Should your intuition start telling you that something good is about to bloom, don't treat it lightly. Your instincts are on track and working quite well.
♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** In case you haven't realized it yet, you'll soon have proof just how valuable your friends are. One among them will help you achieve something that you haven't been able to do alone.
♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Obstacles that have previously been impeding your progress could be replaced with stepping stones, carrying you straight to your hopes and dreams.
♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** It won't be by accident that your hopes and plans begin working out far more successfully than they did previously. It'll be because your thinking is now much more practical and feasible.
♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Someone born under the sign of Sagittarius could offer you some extremely valuable advice. If you happen to have a pal who is an Archer, get together posthaste.
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** The genuine show of interest and caring you have for others will evoke a warmer response from someone who's been frosty toward you. Make the most of the thaw. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

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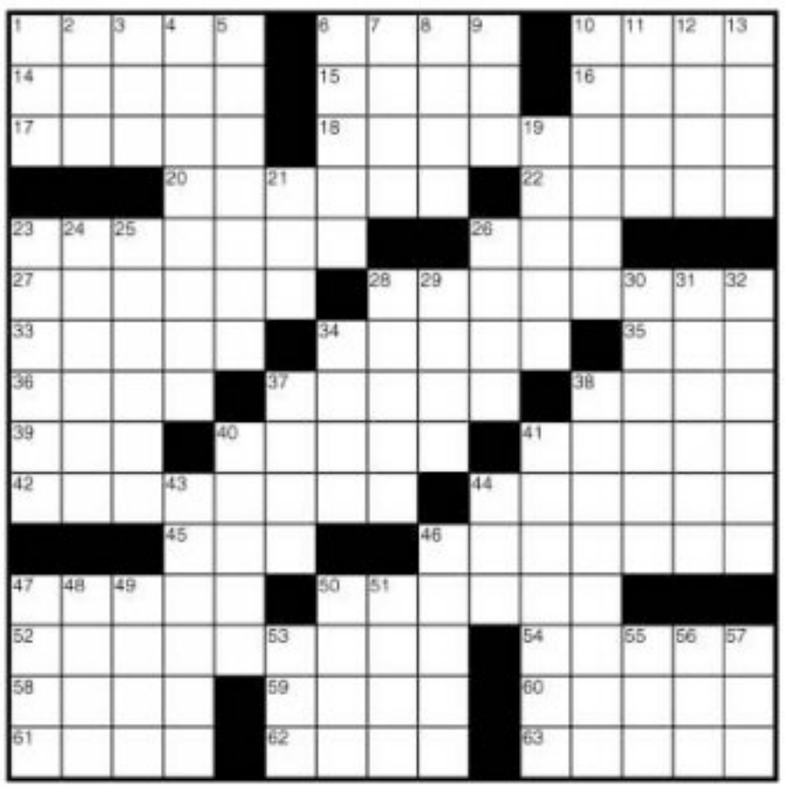

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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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1					5			7
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2			9					4
	5			2		6	1	
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SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

A	H	E	A	D	■	P	A	P	A	■	V	A	M	P
L	A	R	V	A	■	A	C	E	D	■	E	P	E	E
P	I	N	E	N	E	E	D	L	E	■	R	A	S	P
O	L	E	■	G	R	A	C	E	■	A	S	C	A	P
■	■	■	N	E	O	N	■	■	C	H	E	E	S	Y
T	A	T	E	R	S	■	L	A	O	S	■	■	■	■
S	H	A	H	S	■	W	A	L	K	O	V	E	R	■
P	A	I	R	■	C	H	I	L	E	■	Y	O	U	D
■	B	L	U	B	E	R	R	Y	■	R	I	N	D	S
■	■	■	■	L	E	E	S	■	S	U	N	S	E	T
M	U	G	G	E	R	■	■	M	I	N	G	■	■	■
I	N	L	A	W	■	V	O	I	L	A	■	T	R	U
S	T	A	T	■	M	E	L	L	O	W	S	O	U	T
E	I	R	E	■	B	A	L	L	■	A	M	U	S	E
R	E	E	D	■	A	L	A	I	■	Y	U	R	T	S

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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gastronomy

Savoring ‘sensacional’ Sao Paulo

- Head to the multicultural metropolis for business
- Indulge in its sophisticated food scene for pleasure

To Sao Paulo, Brazil’s 19 million-plus residents, home is a sprawling concrete jungle where street art drips from skyscraper facades onto busy sidewalks, traffic is the rhythm of life and multiethnic enclaves — among them Italian, Japanese and Middle Eastern — contribute to a rich cultural identity that is uniquely paulistano. And food is no exception. Because this melting pot isn’t situated on the coast, there’s a local saying that the city’s “beaches” — or main attractions — are its restaurants. From high-end eateries to low-key luncheonettes, Metro gives you a taste of the culinary capital’s real surf and turf.

Fine dining

COURTESY OF D.O.M.

▶ D.O.M.

D.O.M. is not simply a restaurant — the world’s seventh-best, according to San Pellegrino — but an erotic experience. Succumb to the ultimate aphrodisiac: chef Alex Atala’s orgasmic brioche-crusted oyster with tapioca and salmon roe pearls. Other dishes evoke childlike curiosity, including toasted black rice resembling the coveted bits at the bottom of a saucepan and an elastic aligot, served like pulling taffy. Equally seductive and infallible are the sommelier’s wine pairings. But Atala perfects perfection by re-purposing native ingredients like hearts of palm and priprioca, a fragrant Amazonian root. Sustainability is a standard, not a buzzword.
www.domrestaurante.com.br

Also try: Kinoshita, where salmon marinated for six days in sake and miso — an heirloom recipe — is just one of chef Tsuyoshi Murakami’s Japanese specialties.
www.restaurantekinoshita.com.br

Understated eats

Lebanese cafe **Tenda do Nilo** is diamond in the rough with just a handful of bistro tables. All in jest, owners Xmune and Olinda Isper won’t let you sample humus or mhamara, a divine red pepper spread, until you’re taught the proper way to rip and dip a pita. Quickly devour the fatte — a hash of beef, chickpeas, curd and toasted nuts — while shreds of flatbread baked in are still crisp. Conceived in the Middle East but born in Brazil, the Ispers’ semolina cake with cream, pistachios, orange flower and honey called “1001 Nights” is a legend it its own right.
www.tendadonilo.com.br

Also try: the Municipal Market, a commercial hall of fruit vendors, charcuteries and more. Wash down **Bar do Mane**’s 350-gram, fried mortadella sandwich with a pingada — espresso in a glass with milk and sugar.

Hip hot spots

COURTESY OF MANI

▶ Mani’s “Ovo Perfeito”

Mani’s Helena Rizzo gives molecular gastronomy a sense of humor. Centerpieces of paper-thin Parmesan lollipops start the conversation. The artistry of the entrees to come is foretold in a trio of playful tapas: transparent tomato soup in a shot-glass, fois gras encased in port wine jelly like a maraschino cherry and sliced roast beef atop a delicate potato chip. Rizzo’s sous-vide “perfect egg” lives up to its name. For dessert, guava sorbet and cheese flan on a drizzling of dulce de leche will render you speechless.
www.manimanioca.com.br

Also try: Clandestino, chef Bel Coelho’s gastronomic speakeasy open to only 15 diners on Thursday nights. Dishes like liquid coxinha (chicken croquette) and fish ribs with acai gravy introduce unfamiliar ways to eat indigenous ingredients.
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Opinion

ANGELO CATALDI

THE VOICE OF THE PHILLY SPORTS FAN

HEY DESEAN, GROW UP AND GET OUT

Welcome to Philadelphia, home of the biggest child in sports, DeSean Jackson. In the past month, the tiny receiver with the big ego has short-armed a TD pass, been suspended and then blew off reporters.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send submissions to letters@metro.us.

It's a shame Jackson bailed on the media when he did last Thursday night in Seattle. The very next question was, "What do you want for Christmas, little boy?" Of course, we already know the answer. He wants a shiny new contract. What he deserves is a boot right out of town.

That's right. The most exciting Eagle should not be re-signed, and he most certainly shouldn't be guaranteed a huge salary with the franchise tag. When he becomes a free agent at the end of this dreadful season, it'll be the city that is truly free — from his diva demeanor and gutless play.

Yeah, I know. He saved last season with that punt return against the Giants. He has provided more thrills than any other Eagle in his four-year career here. Blah, blah, blah. The truth is, on a team of selfish players, Jackson is the ultimate me-first guy. All you needed to do was watch his three-hour pout-fest on the NFL Network during that humiliating 31-14 loss.

At one point, Vince Young was trying to talk to him after Jackson messed up a play, but little DeSean looked straight ahead, stone-faced. When he did speak with any animation that night, it was to members of the Seahawks. Throughout the debacle, Jackson wore the expression of a player who didn't care. The TV screen doesn't lie.

However, the same cannot be said for coach Andy Reid, who launched an angry screed against the NFL Network the next day for drawing false conclusions. Yeah, right. The NFL Network is notorious for its shoot-from-the-hip style. Analyst Mike Mayock, president of the Andy Reid Fan Club, is a real hatchet man. Please.

Quoted

Jackson is the ultimate me-first guy. ... The TV screen doesn't lie.

This is the case against DeSean Jackson: He cost the Eagles the Arizona game by getting suspended for blowing off a team meeting. He wimped out on the TD pass against New England before dropping another, forcing his benching. And then he blew off dozens of reporters when they challenged him over his sulking in Seattle.

Jackson wears the number 10 — and he acts it. The argument that all of this bad behavior is a result of the Eagles not rewarding him with a new contract is absurd. He signed the original deal. If he had flamed out like so many other top Eagles draft picks, would he have given the money back?

Real Eagles fans, the ones who won't rest until they win a championship, no longer just want Andy Reid to leave. Now they want Big Red to take the little boy with him.

*– **Angelo Cataldi** is the host of 610 WIP's Morning Show, which airs weekdays 5:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.*

Goodbye to another bad pick

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▶ Matthews

In a season of indignities, there can be no lower point than the moment when Casey Matthews — a total bust on a putrid team — thought it was a good idea to attack Eagles fans. Well, at least now we know what resides under that helmet full of hair. Nothing.

Matthews has adopted the hairstyle of his far more talented brother, Clay, but that is clearly where the comparison ends. Forget about Casey needing a full offseason to realize his fourth-round potential. He couldn't play when he got here, and he will depart as soon as management is willing to admit yet another draft mistake.

Still, Matthews couldn't help himself when fans vented their anger at him as he left Lincoln Financial Field after the New England fiasco. Howling that "they don't know me," and "When we win they love you, but when we lose, it gets rough. That's just how it is here."

Yeah, that is a complicated concept. Fans pay thousands on tickets, seat licenses, jerseys, hats and other Eagles gear — and then they get upset when the team stinks. How dare they? How can these people ignore the 17 tackles Matthews has made in 12 games?

Matthews apologized for his outburst, but his words had all the sincerity of an Andy Reid news conference. It's a pretty safe bet Casey Matthews will not be heard from again, on the field or off it. In fact, we really only need him to say one more word. Goodbye.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Howie Roseman had no experience as an NFL GM.

Birds brass in line for silent film

The rumors aren't true. Jeff Lurie, Joe Banner and Howie Roseman are not in Hollywood remaking "The Three Stooges." If the Eagles executives do make a film together, you can bet it will be a silent one.

For 12 weeks, the owner, president and GM have been unavailable for comment, as their "all-in" team went all-out. The Eagles are out of the playoffs, out of hope for the future, and — we can only assume — out of patience with Andy Reid.

The problem is, we aren't even being given the usual cliches associated with crises like this. With the exception of Lurie poking his head out long enough after the Giants win to say his team was poised for a late-season run, none of them has said a word in months. The last time they spoke — and, boy, did they speak — was after their free-agent signing frenzy.

And it's not as if they haven't been asked. Banner has turned down requests for interviews for the past several weeks, leaving everyone to guess what he's thinking about the mess his team has become. Is he as sick of Reid's "gotta do a better job" mantra as we are?

Mum's the word on the Eagles. And when the team asks you to buy a jersey for Christmas this month, or to renew your season tickets, you might want to adopt a similar strategy. Say nothing.

Idle thoughts from Cataldi ...

1 **Fall from grace.** For a future Hall of Famer who was treated so shabbily here, Donovan McNabb sure has taken a plunge since leaving. And if he thinks his release by the Vikings was humbling, wait until he takes his goofy faces and dopey remarks into the broadcast booth.

2 **Change the culture.** The Phils ending up with Jimmy Rollins for another three or four seasons has become the worst-case scenario. One of the best ways to change the culture of postseason failure is to remove one of its biggest causes, the bad attitude of our overrated shortstop.

3 **GM for a day.** Now that the Sixers have dumped former GM Ed Stefanski and mascot Hip Hop, the next cuts should be Andre Iguodala and Elton Brand. If they don't unload one of those two contracts under the new amnesty clause, the Sixers will be missing a huge opportunity to improve.

Vick: 'I'll definitely be out there'

Eagles QB back at practice, expects to play Sunday
Maclin out, Asomugha returns Birds still alive

Don't tell Mike Vick the season is over.

The Eagles starting quarterback returned to practice yesterday, for the first time in nearly three weeks. Vick admitted that his injured ribs weren't 100 percent, but added that it didn't restrict his throwing and fully expects to start Sunday in Miami. Vick didn't wear any protective padding at yesterday's practice.

"This Sunday I'll definitely be out there. I feel like I've got to be accountable for my team," Vick said yesterday. "I want to be there. You know, I just want to get back to doing what I love to do, and that's playing the game of football."

The Eagles have gone 1-2 in Vick's absence and, thanks to recent losses by the Giants and Cowboys, still have an outside shot at winning the NFC East. The team's mentality moving forward is simple: keep playing hard. According to Playoffstatus.com, they have a 1 percent chance to make the postseason.

"Absolutely," Vick said, when asked if the Eagles could still win the division. "That's why we've got to keep our heads up high, we've got to keep playing hard, keep trusting and believing in one another, keep believing in our coaches and the philosophies that are being taught here, and make the most out of this."

"We need a lot of stuff to happen but the only thing we can do to control us is go out and put a good performance this week, and that's what we're trying to do," added receiver Jason Avant. MIKE GREGER

Bird seed

- **Maclin out, Asomugha in** Receiver **Jeremy Maclin** (hamstring, shoulder) did not practice yesterday, but he expects to return Wednesday. Cornerback **Nnamdi Asomugha** (concussion) also practiced after passing baseline testing.
- **Charity starts at home** Maclin and fellow receiver **DeSean Jackson** will visit Our Lady of Calvary school today to speak to students about good health and present a check for $10,000.
- **That's my teammate** Maclin defended Jackson, who has come under fire after last week's telecast on NFL Network. **"Obviously, they're going to try to find anything that they can to nit pick,"** he said.

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▶ Vick has missed three straight games with injured ribs.

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Baseball players get pay bump; Phils talk Rollins

It may be a down economy for some, but not for baseball players.

The Major League Baseball Players Association announced yesterday that the average player salary had risen 2.7 percent to nearly $3.1 million. The average minimum salary increased from $414,000 to $480,000.

The Yankees owned the highest average salary at $6.54 million, with the Phillies coming in at second at $6.44 million. The Red Sox were third at $5.21 million.

If you break it down by positions, designated hitters are the richest hauling in an annual income of $9.3 million. First basemen are second at $8.9 million.

In more Phillies-centered news, GM Ruben Amaro Jr. met with Jimmy Rollins' agent yesterday at the winter meetings in Dallas. The two didn't appear any closer to a deal.

"I think we deserve to give the proper timing to the Jimmy situation. As I said, our goal is to bring Jimmy back," Amaro told reporters.

The Phillies are also reportedly talking with third baseman Aramis Ramirez, while shopping Placido Polanco. METRO

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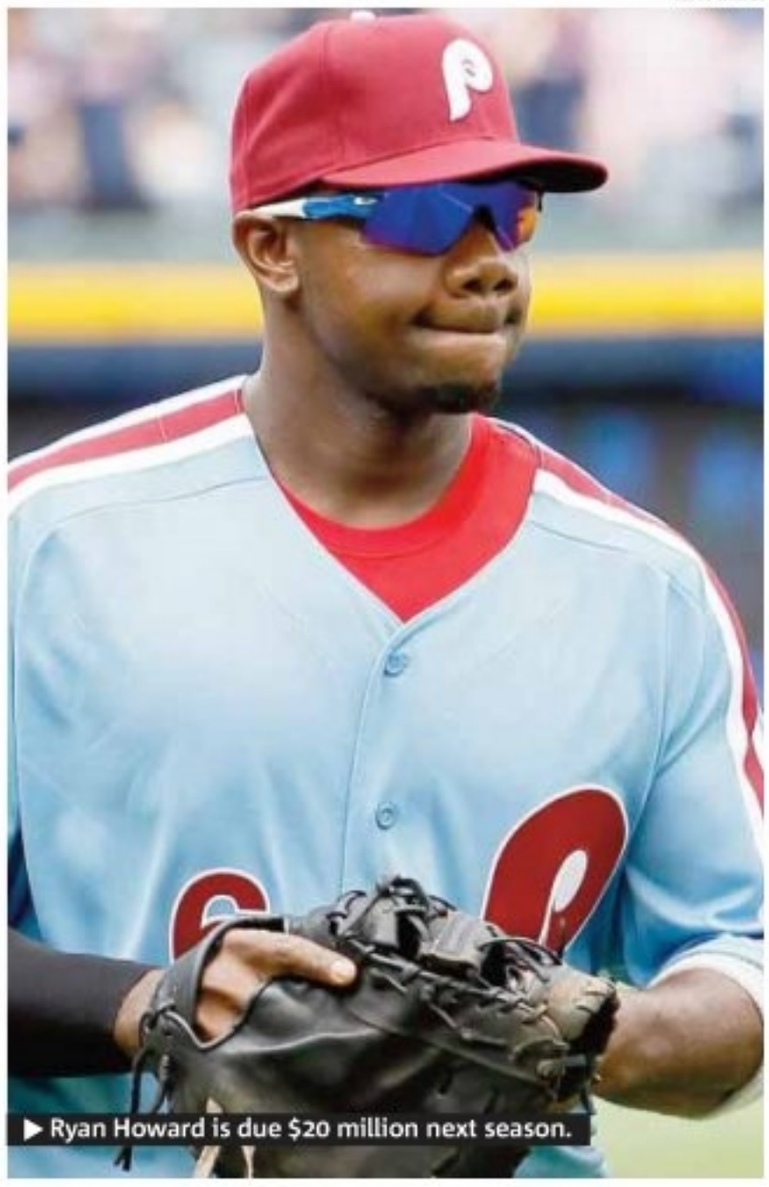

▶ Ryan Howard is due $20 million next season.

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Want to Cut Down on your Drinking?

The University of Pennsylvania is conducting a research study of an investigational medication in order to determine whether it will help reduce drinking.

If you are between the ages of 18 and 65 and have a desire to reduce your drinking, please call 215-243-9959, you may be eligible to participate in our alcohol study.

For more information, please call **215-243-9959**

Treatment Research Center
Penn Medicine

Help

lead the way.

Research Sleep Study

Teenagers between the ages of 12 and 16 are needed for a study that will help us better understand sleep in adolescents. Your child does not need to have sleep problems to be included in this study. Teenagers of average weight and overweight teenagers can be included.

The study involves two nights in the sleep lab, MRI and a breathing test.
During this study, nothing will hurt your child and no needles will be used. A parent must stay with the child overnight.

We offer reimbursement for expenses.
For further information, please call:
Ruth Bradford
Study Coordinator
Phone: 267-426-5747

Clinical Research at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia®
A pediatric healthcare network
34th Street and Civic Center Boulevard, Philadelphia, Pa. 19104-4399
1-800-TRY CHOP www.chop.edu

CONSTIPAINTION

FROM PRESCRIPTION PAIN MEDICATION?

We're conducting a clinical research study evaluating an investigational drug designed to specifically target and block the effects of opioids at the opioid receptors in the bowel responsible for causing constipation. Utilizing an intensive approach that does not require any changes to your current pain medication, this research study aims to determine the safety and effectiveness of the investigational drug to see if it provides relief for constipation caused by prescription opioid pain medication.

All study participants will receive at no cost:

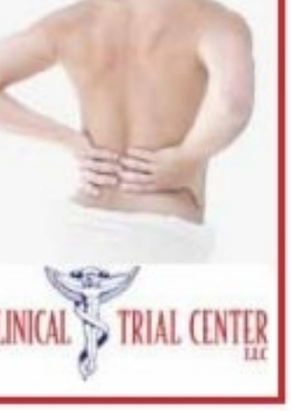
- An intensive and in-depth review of their condition conducted by dedicated research professionals.
- A confidential setting to discuss their health-related concerns.
- Study drugs (either the investigational drug or a placebo).

CRI Worldwide
Clinical • Research • Integrity

To learn more about this clinical research study, and to see if you may be eligible to participate:

1-866-641-6752 CRITRIALS.com

Struggling with Cocaine…?



The University of Pennsylvania Treatment Research Center is conducting research studies to help you kick the cocaine habit. An alternative to conventional treatment at no cost to you.

Call or Email Today

215.243.9959

addicted@med.upenn.edu

Penn Medicine

DO YOU SUFFER FROM LOW BACK PAIN?

You may be eligible to participate in a research study if you:

- Are 18 years of age or older.
- Suffer from moderate to severe low back pain.
- Currently taking a narcotic for you low back pain.

For more information call:
215-884-1700
THE CLINICAL TRIAL CENTER LLC

+++++ Clinical Research Opportunity +++++

Take Pain Meds? Have CONSTIPATION?

If you or a loved one is struggling with *constipation possibly caused by prescription pain medication,* take part in this clinical research study.

Take this opportunity to explore your possible treatment options by learning more.

COMPENSATION OF UP TO $50 PER STUDY VISIT MAY BE AVAILABLE

Call: 866-230-8333
Visit: PainAndConstipation.com

DUAL

DUAL Action of Liraglutide and insulin degludec in type 2 diabetes

help change the future for people with type 2 diabetes

Did you know diabetes is one of the most serious health problems of our time?

It is important for patients and physicians to expand their knowledge of diabetes and explore ways to improve future treatment options for people with type 2 diabetes. Therefore, Founders Research is seeking people with type 2 diabetes to take part in the DUAL II trial, a clinical research study that could change the way type 2 diabetes is treated.

In return for their participation, patients will receive comprehensive care via regular health checks and medical testing, access to at no cost trial medicationand blood glucose testing equipment as well as compensation for your time and travel.

For more information with no obligation, please ask your doctor/nurse for further information.

To join the trial you must be:

- **18 years of age or older**
- **Have type 2 diabetes**
- **Treated with basal insulin and 1-2 OAD (Metformin with or without sulfonylurea (SU) or glinides)**
- **Be able to attend 11 clinic visits and 23 phone contacts during the 29 weeks you participate in the trial**

For More information call Founders Research at 215-831-0445

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Do you or someone you know suffer from Iron Deficiency Anemia?

Has Oral Iron therapy not worked or you're unable to take Iron by mouth?

Has Oral Iron therapy not worked or you're unable to take Iron by mouth?

A research study is taking place in your area.
Call to see if you qualify.

Qualified participants will receive study related medical care and investigational medicine at no cost.

You may be compensated for time and travel.

Call Dr. Kalafer at
THE CLINICAL TRIAL CENTER LLC
215-884-1700

- Are you African American?

- Are you 50 or older?

- Do you have frequent knee pain?

If so you may be eligible for a research study with compensation

Eligible participants will be asked how they deal with knee pain and discuss treatment options

CALL TODAY (215) 746-7079

Penn Medicine

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2011

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BED **Brand New Queen** Pillow top Mattress Set in plastic w/warranty $175. Delivery avail. 215-355-3878

indoor flea market & craft sale

Sat. Dec. 10th
9am-1pm
New Hope/Solebury School Cafeteria
180 Bridge St.
New Hope, PA
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Reservations Call:
Greater Philadelphia Media GPM phillyBurbs.com
866-938-3010

Sectional, micro fiber w/ chaise & ottoman, 7 colors avail. Brand new still boxed. Get all 3 pcs $579 **215-752-0911**

Garage & Yard Sales

BED A real Pillow Top Queen $239; King $349; full size $220. Also Memory Foam Mattress Queen, never used, $295. CAN **DELIVER 215-752-0911**

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Please Call: 267-770-6393
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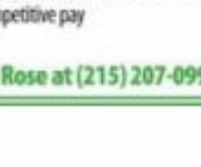

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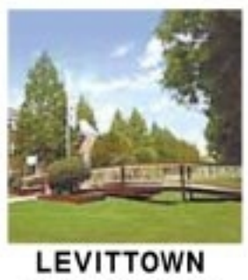

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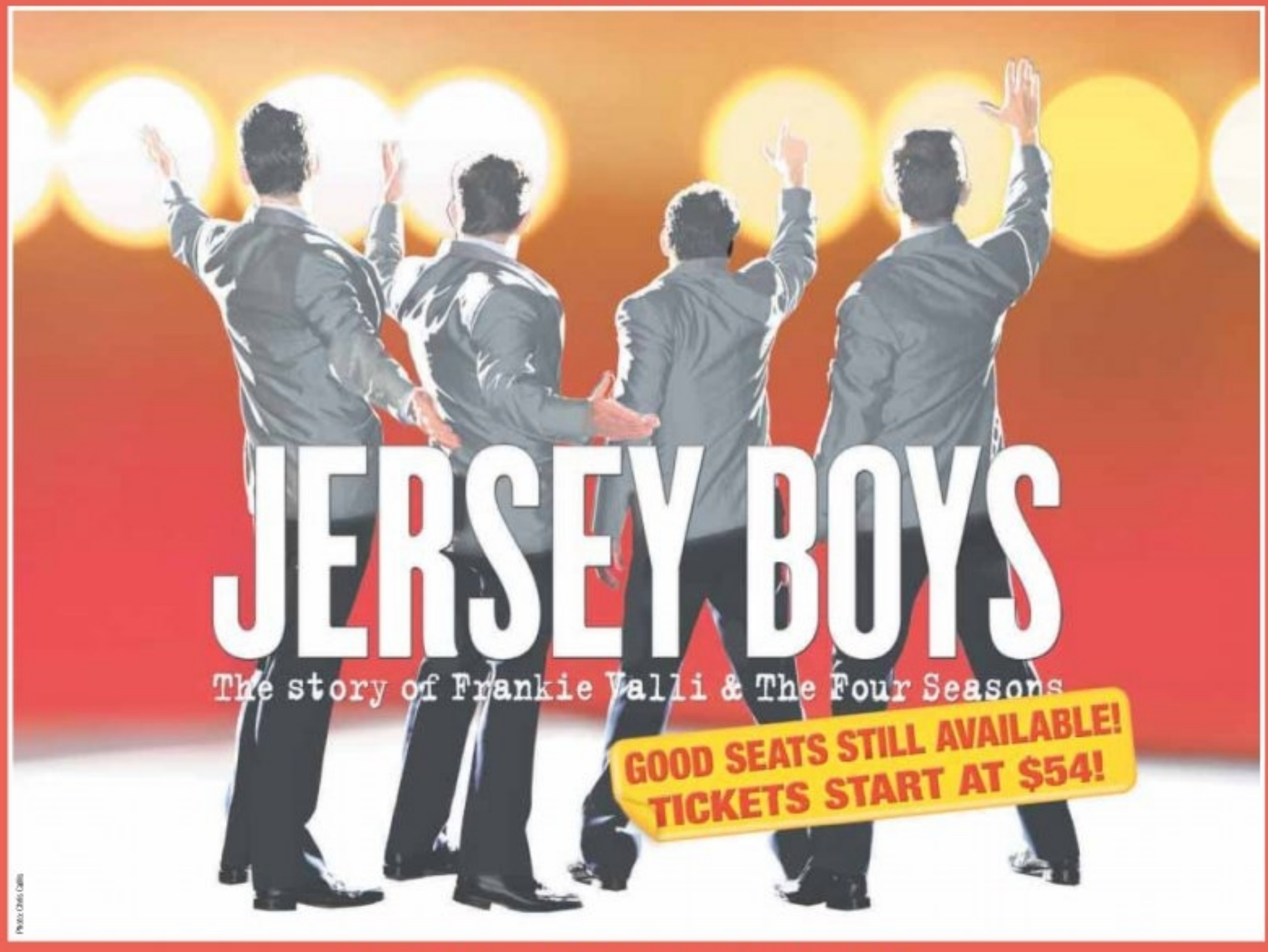

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